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Thursday, April 29, 2010

THE MORNING TENSOR SOURCE for Local News in English

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Aruba Meets Europe









For decades, early spring is a time when Aruba's tourism entities, the Aruba Tourist Authority (ATA) and the Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association (AHATA) connect, network and brainstorm with their tourism partners in North and Latin America by hosting conferences and welcoming delegates to the CATA and ATCA, respectively.

Five years ago they added Aruba Meets Europe, or AME,

as more nations from that continent and beyond have shown great interest in the Caribbean, and Aruba in particular, as a vacation destination. On Sunday, April 25, sixty travel executives and international media began arriving to take part in five days of getting to know Aruba and establishing commerce between their nations. They hail from Holland, England, Sweden, Belgium, and Austria, with some travel media from Italy and other

Island travel pundits understand the varying nature of visitors from different parts of the world. Europeans in particular, take an extreme interest in the culture of the destinations they visit, so delegates were welcomed on their first night by Aruba's Minister of Tourism, Transport and Labor Otmar Oduber, with a stylish party in the gardens of Aruba's Archaeological Museum, which opened last year.

A majority of the time during the week on the island is spent in networking sessions punctuated by a visit to the environs of the Arikok National Park, a snorkeling and sailing cruise along the coast and other such activities, as the theme of this year's AME is "Where Culture meets Nature."

Continued on page 3

Spain downgraded, Europe debt crisis widens

BERLIN, Germany (AP) – Europe's debt crisis mushroomed yesterday as Spain saw its credit rating lowered, just as Germany sought to reassure nervous investors that Greece would not be allowed to go under, saying Berlin's share of a key aid package could be approved in the next few days.

Stock and bond markets had begun to regain their composure after stinging downgrades of Greece and Portugal the day before, when Standard & Poors delivered more bad news by cutting Spain's rating to AA from AA+ amid concerns about the country's growth prospects following the collapse of a construction bubble.

"We now believe that the Spanish economy's shift away from credit-fuelled economic growth is likely to result in a more protracted period of sluggish activity than we previously assumed," Standard & Poor's credit analyst Marko Mrsnik said.

Spain is considered the key to whether Europe's debt crisis can be resolved — its economy is much larger than that of Greece and Portugal and many in the markets postulate - may be just too big to bail out if it gets into serious trouble.

Though its overall debt burden is fairly modest at around 53 percent of national income, the country is running a high budget deficit and has done less than others to get a handle on its public finances.

"Given its lack of competitiveness and the grim outlook for domestic demand the government will need to announce further fiscal measures if it is to make serious inroads into the deficit," said Ben May, European economist at Capital "Today's an-Economics. nouncement may increase the pressure on it to do this sooner rather than later."

The announcement came after a day of market drops and turmoil following the downgrades of Greece — to junk status — and Portugal. Markets had been looking for a clear word from Germany that it would contribute its part of a Greek bailout package.

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Aruba Meets Europe

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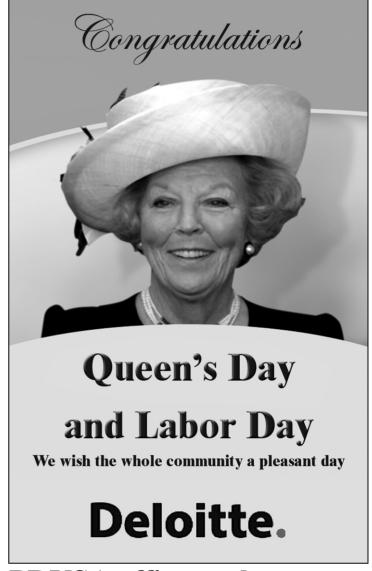
On Tuesday morning, the AME General Assembly and official welcome by Minister Oduber was conducted in the Renaissance Convention Cen-

ter. It featured Keynote Speaker Victor Neyndorff, a former marketer at Procter & Gamble, and considered an expert on the subject of branding.

His topic, "Keys to Social Marketing," focused on how consumers trust is shifting from "trust in brands" to "trust in people." He pointed out that Internet use to research before purchasing a product or planning a vacation, and social media such as Facebook and Twitter is changing the consumerism structure; satisfaction or dissatisfaction with a product or service is expressed instantly and worldwide. Those seeking advice before making a decision will readily receive "word of mouth" recommendations, and the influence of this practice and trust in it is growing exponentially and shifting from the influence of commercial advertising.

In his welcome, Minister Oduber outlined to Aruba's European travel partners the changes he had expressed to delegates from North America the week before, including the return of "Aruba-One Happy Island" branding and new logo. "Although we recognize that the North American market remains the largest market for Aruba," he told the delegates, "diversification of key source markets is very important to us; Europe has our total attention. Within the first 100 days of our administration (AVP political party) we were able to secure the return of KLM flights to Aruba, which is not only important for the Dutch market, but especially the gateways beyond." He thanked Aruba's dedicated travel partners in Europe for their continued loyalty through a "difficult and challenging year that was 2009" and informed them his ministry has doubled the marketing allowance for Europe for 2010.

"Aruba already has a well known and positive brand and reputation, with high awareness... in 2010, the Country Brand Index rated Aruba as the second strongest Caribbean brand," Minister Oduber informed the General Assembly. "We will work together with all partners...I have designated a clear, long term vision titled "Two Steps Ahead for Aruba as a Tourism Destination." My vision is for Aruba to provide a sustainable tourism product offering a balance between economic growth, social infrastructure and natural resources with the well being of the population and our visitors experience as a central focus. That vision is based on the philosophy maintained by the ATA for the past few years "An Aruba where it is wonderful to live, is also wonderful to visit," he



PDVSA officer rules out resumption of Isla refinery operations in April

WILLEMSTAD, Curaçao --Kenneth Gijsbertha, spokesman for Curacao-based Isla refinery, which is run by staterun oil company Petroleos de Venezuela (PDVSA), ruled out on Tuesday that the plant would restart operations in April.

The 320,000 bpd refinery halted operations early in March due to a failure in the plant that provides water, elec-

tricity, and steam to the refinery.

Rafael Ramirez, the President of PDVSA, had said that Isla refinery would restart operation in late April, but now the plant is expected to resume operations in May.

The refinery was about to purchase seven air compressors to repair the CUOC unit and re-start operations later this month.







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Anne Frank's full diary on display in Amsterdam

AMSTERDAM, The Netherlands (AP) – Nearly all of Anne Frank's diary went on display yesterday for the first time at the house where she wrote it during the two years the Jewish teenager was in hiding from the Nazis.

The notebooks and pages that comprise the World War II

diary have been moved into the Anne Frank House museum to mark 50 years since it opened its doors to the public.

Dutch Queen Beatrix opened the exhibition, then attended a commemoration at the 17th century Western Church a few dozen steps from museum.

The original red plaid diary in which Anne began writing on her 13th birthday has been at the museum for several years.

But that covered just six months of the 25 months she hid with her family and four other Jews in a concealed canal-side apartment in Ams-

terdam. Two other school exercise books and other pages were stored at the Netherlands War Documentation Center, the government war archives.

Now on display are the three parts of the diary, a book of short stories she wrote called "Tales from the Secret Annex," and a notebook of her favorite quotations.

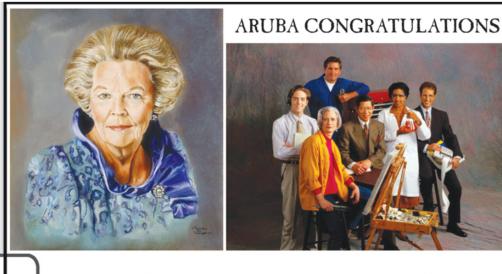
Anne also wrote 360 loose pages written on flimsy paper, mostly revising earlier diary entries with the intention of publishing it after the war. Because of the papers' fragile state, the museum said it will display 40 sheets at a time and rotate them.

The diary and other papers have all been studied, published and in some cases reproduced in replicas. But it will be the first time visitors see nearly the full collection in Anne's own hand in one place.

The museum also launched a "Secret Annex Online" on its website yesteray, allowing people to tour it online.

"The generation of people who experienced the war and Nazi persecution of the Jews is shrinking fast," said former Prime Minister Wim Kok at the church ceremony. "Their stories must be kept alive and passed on to new generations. The Anne Frank House is one of the places where that happens."

The diary has been translated into dozens of languages, has been read by millions of people and is on the curriculum of many schools.



with Queen's Day and Labor Day

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"Koninginnedag": Queen's Day Celebration



Dutch Queen BeatrixKoninginnedag, Queen's Day is a national holiday in the Netherlands, the Netherlands

Antilles, and Aruba on 30 April or on 29 April if the 30th is a Sunday. Queen's Day celebrates the birthday of the Queen of the Netherlands and is supposed to be a day of national unity and "togetherness".

The tradition started on 31 August 1885, on the birthday of Princess Wilhelmina, later Queen Wilhelmina. Since 1949, after the ascension of Queen Juliana, Queen's Day is Queen Juliana's birthday on 30 April. Although Queen Beatrix's birthday is on 31 January, she officially celebrates her birthday on 30 April.

Queen's Day is known for its "freemarket" all over the country, where everybody is allowed to sell things in the streets. Other activities during Queen's Day are children's games, individual musical performances, and music concerts. The night before Queen's Day is celebrated too in some cities, and this is called Queen's Night (Dutch: Koninginnenacht).

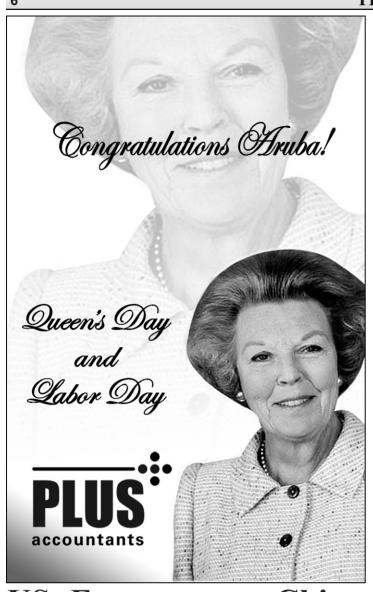
The largest celebration of Queen's Day is in Amsterdam, Queen's Night in The Hague and Queen's Dance (Dutch: Koninginnedans) in Rotterdam. During the celebrations as reference to the colours of the House of Orange-Nassau, people dress in

the colour orange, which is sometimes called "orange craze".

Aruba also celebrates Queens Day to the fullest and different activities are organised all over the island from early in the morning until at night.







Science/ Tech.

How is Coffee Decaffeinated?



For those who like the taste of java but can't stand the jitters, scientists have devised a variety of ways to extract caffeine from coffee beans. In the most common method, called "solvent extraction," the beans are steamed to raise their moisture content. Dissolved caffeine rises to the surface of the beans and is washed off using an organic solvent such as methylene chloride. The neutered beans are then dried off and ready to go. Makes you wonder who's drinking the runoff.

US, Europe press China to drop tech security rule

BEIJING – Global technology suppliers face a looming Chinese deadline to reveal the inner workings of computer encryption and other security products in a move the United States and Europe say is protectionist.

Suppliers must comply with the rules that take effect Saturday or risk being shut out of the billions of dollars in purchases that the Chinese government makes of smart cards, secure routers, antispam software and other security products. Encryption codes and other trade secrets would have to be disclosed to a government panel, and the foreign companies worry they might be leaked to Chinese rivals.

It is the latest in a string of disputes over complaints Beijing is using regulations to support its companies at the expense of foreign rivals. It comes less than a month after China defused a separate conflict with the United States and Europe by scaling back a plan to favor Chinese technology in government procurement.

Washington and the European Union say no other nation imposes such a demand and want Beijing to scrap or at least postpone it.

Washington wants China

to "follow global norms," said Nkenge L. Harmon, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Trade Representative, in an e-mail Wednesday. In a meeting this month, she said, American officials "pressed China to address the concerns of foreign governments and industry before implementing the testing and certification rules."

The requirement "has no real base in reality," the visiting EU trade commissioner, Karel De Gucht, said Tuesday. "We cannot see what they see in regard to security, so we are in fact disputing this."

De Gucht said he raised the issue with Chinese Commerce Minister Chen Deming, though he gave no details.

The demand reflects the communist government's unease about relying on foreign technology to manage its secrets and Beijing's desire to help fledgling Chinese hightech companies catch up and compete with global rivals.

The rules cover 13 types of products, including database and network security systems, secure routers, data backup and recovery systems and anti-spam and anti-hacking software — all essential parts of computer and telecommunications networks. Such

technology is enmeshed in products sold by Microsoft Corp., Cisco Systems Inc. and other industry giants.

Acquiring such know-how would also help Beijing improve its extensive system of Internet monitoring and filtering, essentially giving security forces the keys to pry into encrypted messages and data.

Beijing announced the computer security rules in 2008. They were due to take effect last year, covering all such sales in China. But after U.S. complaints, they were postponed to this year and scaled back to cover only government procurement.



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Smelly, Rare 'Corpse Flower' Blooms

A rare behemoth flower -dubbed the "corpse flower" for its rotting-meat smell -bloomed this week at Western Illinois University this week. It's one of a small group of these flowers that have bloomed in cultivation since the 1880s.

As of Monday, the mega flower (one of four in the university's greenhouse), was 44.5 inches (113 centimeters) tall, having grown nearly 4 inches (about 5.7 cm) in 24 hours. In the wild, the plant can grow as big as 20 feet (6 meters) tall and 15 feet (4.5 meters) across.

First corpse discovered

The flower, whose scientific name is Amorphophallus titanium and is also know as Titan Arum, is native to the equatorial rainforests of central Sumatra in western Indonesia.

It was first discovered in 1878 by Italian botanist Odoardo Beccari, who collected the seeds and provided them to England's Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew, which recorded the first bloom of this species in cultivation in 1889. The first bloom of this species in the United States occurred at the

New York Botanical Gardens in June 1937.

The seeds for the Western Illinois University plant were collected in 1993 by James Symon in Sumatra while filming for Sir David Attenborough's BBC documentary "The Private Life of Plants." The plants that WIU has grown from those seeds are among the first generation of plants cultivated in the United States. (That means they are essentially from the 1930s.)

Putrid plant basics

For most of its life, the corpse flower grows vegetatively, only producing a single, umbrella-like leaf, Hillyer explained.

The bloom (or inflorescence) of the flower is actually composed of thousands of flowers. The flower's nickname comes from the odor of the bloom, which smells like rotting meat.

In its native environment, the Titan Arum is pollinated by carrion beetles and flesh flies, which are attracted to the horrendous odor. The flower is a member of the Araceae family that includes plants such as Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Calla Lilly and Philodendron.











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HEALTH

Brown rice = better heart health

Two kinds of rice -- brown and half-milled rice -- may reduce the risk of heart disease and high blood pressure by interfering with a protein linked to those conditions, research suggests.

In a new study, researchers report that the findings could indicate that brown rice is better than white rice when it comes to protecting the body from high blood pressure and artherosclerosis (hardening of the arteries).

"Our research suggests that there is a potential ingredient in rice that may be a good starting point for look-



ing into preventive medicine for cardiovascular diseases," researcher Eguchi, an associate professor of physiology at Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia.

Brown rice combats high BP Eguchi and colleagues said their experiments show that an ingredient in brown rice appears to combat a protein known as angiotensin II that contributes to high blood pressure and clogged arteries.

The ingredient is in a layer of rice that is stripped away when brown rice is converted to white rice. But the layer can be preserved in half-milled (Haigamai) and incompletely milled (Kinmemai) rice, which are popular in Japan.

Folic acid may help spinal, brain trauma

MADISON, Wisconsin -- A nerve cell regeneration folical Investigation. study of rodents found folic lowing injury in rodents. acid might help promote healing of brain and spinal cord injuries, U.S. researchers said.

Study leader Bermans Iskandar of the University of Wisconsin in Madison said the team of researchers uncovered a molecular pathway by which folate promotes

Iskandar said women who may become pregnant or who are pregnant are advised to eat enough folic acid to prevent their child from developing neural tube defects -defects in the development of the spinal cord or brain.

The findings were published in the Journal of Clin-

A commentary, written by Matthias Endres and Golo Kronenberg, of Charite --Universitatsmedizin Berlin in Germany, said the data combined with the safety and simplicity of folate suggest testing folate supplementation for spinal cord and brain trauma patients.

HPV Test Beats Pap Smear for Cancer Screening

Doctors can detect more serious precancerous lesions in the cervix by testing for human papillomavirus (HPV) than through conventional cervical screening with a Pap smear, a new study suggests.

HPV, a common sexually transmitted disease, can cause cancers such as cervical cancer. The disease is especially prevalent in young women.

In the new study, led by Ahti Anttila of the Finnish Cancer Registry, researchers studied the experiences of 58,282 women aged 30 to 60 who took part in routine cervical screening between 2003 and 2005.

The women were ran-

domly assigned to receive an HPV test or a Pap smear test. The researchers then tracked the women for five years.

The HPV screening tests did a better job at detecting serious precancerous lesions on the surface of the cervix, known as cervical intraepithelial neoplasia (CIN III), according to the report published online April 28 in the BMJ.

The researchers cautioned that they didn't detect very many cervical cancer cases. Still, they wrote, "considering the high probability of progression of CIN III lesions in women aged 35 years or more, our results are important for prevention of cervical cancer.'



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Is a city northwest of <u>■Oranjestad</u>, capital of Aruba, and is home to the high rise hotels and a new shopping district. The renowned two-mile-long strip known as Palm Beach is home to glamorous highrise hotels and dotted by water sports concessions, piers, beach bars, restaurants and shops. Calm waters make this a comfortable haven for swimmers and snorkelers. A walk along the coast at dawn or sunset is perfect for exercise and quiet reflection.

Multiple time-share ownership and full-time ownership condos have been or are being built in the area as well.









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On Monday, a delegation of the Council of Minister went to the residence of Padu Lampe to congratulate him on his 90th birthday. During the event Minister of Economic Affairs, Social Affairs and Culture Michelle Winklaar-Hooyboer thanked all those present, among them dignitaries of the Netherlands Antilles, who came to Aruba to celebrate with Padu Lampe

Minister Winklaar-Hooyboer elaborated on her goal to create a country which reflects creative and flexible factors, like the ones Padu has. Her job is to create more and better opportunities for youngsters, taking into account those same factors that typifies Padu as a human being. The minister re-ferred to two thoughts of Mahatma Gandhi, which makes her think of Padu Lampe. One of them is a famous saying: "A nation's culture resides in the heart and in the soul of its people."

"Padu for me definintely symbolizes the heart and soul of our culture," she stated. "The second thought of Gandhi says that we must stand firm on our tradition, but we must not get stuck in our traditions, but look into the future, with respect for our past, with flexibility and the gift to adapt to challenges. Embrace outside influences, but with a stable and firm foundation and open windows. If Padu's windows of life weren't open, he would've never reached Caracas, Curaçao, Holland, The Dominican Republic, Honolulu and even Seattle.

"Today I consider Padu an inspiration, a multi faceted and diverse person, the foundation of my management where money nor technology is important but the human quality, as Gandhi refers to. Padu symbolizes all that," she finished saying.

Minister Winklaar-Hooyboer surprised Padu with the announcement that "from this day on, April 26, 2010, in commemoration of Padu's 90th birthday, we instituted the national award 'Juan Chabaya Lampe, Padu del Caribe.' The award will be granted annually to an Aruba youngster who



comes forth with creative ideas for our island, i.e. how to improve water processing, ideas for better sustainability, thus ideas on how to improve the quality of life on the island. It must be acknowledgeable in the future. The award is based on Padu as a diverse person who looks into the future, as we all know him."

At the end Minister Win-

klaar-Hooyboer asked Padu the golden question: "What is Padu's secret for remaining young? Recently a 122-yearold Chinese woman said that the secret is to stop worrying over what you can get in the future and what you did not get in the past. Living in the present is what keeps you young. I am sure that Padu agrees with that philosophy.'

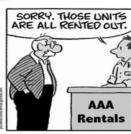


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- 57. Biblical

- 63. Window ledge

58. Tigers or Mets

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- 60. Bay
- 61. Sponsorship
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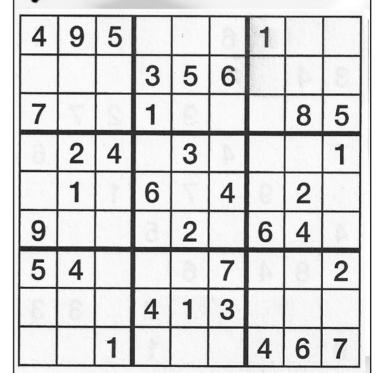
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Toyota to recall about 50,000 Sequoia SUVs

WASHINGTON (AP) – Toyota Motor Corp. recalled about 50,000 Sequoia sport utility vehicles from the 2003 model year to fix an unexpected slowing of the vehicle in the latest recall issued by the Japanese automaker.

Toyota said yesterday that the recall would address the vehicle's electronic stability control system, which helps maintain traction during turning. In some cases, the stability control could activate at low speed and prevent the SUV from accelerating as quickly as a driver expects, the company said.

JetBlue plans more partnerships, reports 1Q loss

NEW YORK city (AP) – Jet-Blue said yesterday it will partner with more airlines in the "weeks and months to come,"

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

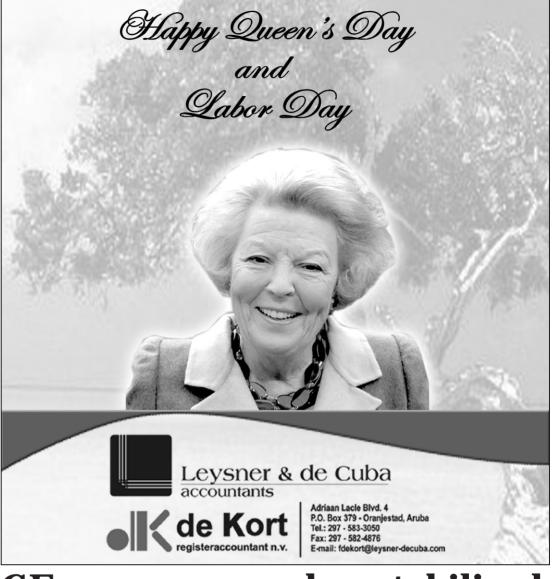
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less than a month after it signed a deal with American Airlines.

This is a new direction for the 10-year-old airline, which attracts passengers with ads that poke fun at "the other guys."

Partnerships allow JetBlue to get passengers from other cities it doesn't serve. In the American deal, JetBlue gets access to Washington's Reagan National Airport, which it has wanted for years.

JetBlue will launch nonstop service from there to Boston and Florida cities beginning Nov. 1.



GE says economy has stabilized

General Electric Co. said yesterday that the broader economy and its own industrial and lending businesses are improving, signs the "clouds are breaking" after one of the worst years ever for the company.

Some key economic indicators have stabilized, including the high unemployment rate and the decline in housing prices, GE told investors at its annual meeting in Houston.

Unemployment falls in majority of US cities

WASHINGTON (AP) – Unemployment rates fell or remained level in three-quarters of the 372 largest metropolitan areas, a sign that the economic recovery is widespread.

The Labor Department said yesterday the jobless rate dropped in 69 percent of metro areas last month from February. It rose in 24 percent of large cities and remained the same in the rest.

That's an improvement from February, when the unemployment rate decreased in 51 percent of metro areas and increased in one-third.

Employers added 162,000 jobs in March, the government said earlier this month, the most significant gain in three years.

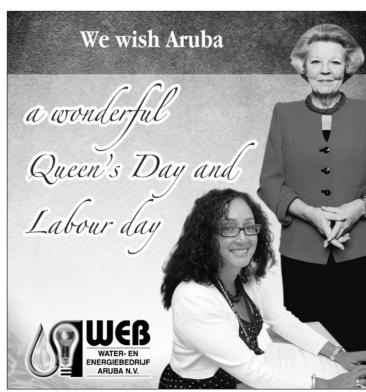
Bank losses have stopped growing and capital markets have improved, a positive sign for GE's troubled GE Capital lending unit that has been the source of many of its problems.

"The forecast ahead of us is promising," said GE chief executive Jeffrey Immelt.

GE is frequently seen as an economic indicator since it is has a major presence in sectors ranging from transportation to finance and employs more than 300,000 people in dozens of countries.

GE suffered through a painful year in 2009, as the recession sapped demand for its products ranging from jet engines to wind turbines while the financial crisis led to a big spike in losses on loans GE Capital made for mortgages, credit cards and commercial real estate. The company cut its dividend, lost its top credit rating and saw its stock price swoon.

But the company said GE Capital is improving and should return to profit growth soon.





🔰 obierno di Aruba ta felicita su Mahestad Reina Beatrix cu celebracion di su aniversario y na mes momento tambe un pabien di curason recordando su di 30 aña riba trono.

Durante e añanan aki Su Mahestad a duna muestra di un caracter firme cu a percura pa un union solido den Reino.

Pabien nos Reina stima!! Es Gabinete Mike Eman





Puerto Rico wake features victim atop motorcycle

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico(AP) – A funeral home in Puerto Rico that made international headlines two years ago is at it again. Marin Funeral Home has embalmed the body of a young man and put the corpse atop a motorcycle in a hunched-over racing position. The body wears a black cap, black sunglasses and a longsleeved black T-shirt.

Tech toys for the Modern Mom and more at Sam's by Manolo

Mother's Day is coming, and Sam's on the Havenstraat has several novel ideas for gift giving that modern day moms are sure appreciate. Not only do they offer a very appealing selection of hot pink lap top computer sleeves, protective cell phone covers and stylish ear buds and personal communication devices with a feminine touch, but they are exclusive distributors unique SilverRado charms.

Personalized charm bracelets and necklaces are all the rage these days, from detailed, dangling sculptures to beautifully crafted beads of silver and Murano glass. Sam's, located adjacent to Oranjestad's main square, has one of the largest collections on the island. They inform us that SilverRado beads run about 30% less than competitive brands.

An important extra; SilveRado is the only company to produce the "I love Aruba" bead, for a beautiful way to ex-



press your dedication to the island. Jewelry can be personalized from the large selection in the hues of Aruba's sea, sky and tropical greenery to produce a singular bracelet or necklace that is a perfect souvenir of Aruba, or just a wonderful conversation piece that will look lovely on Mom's

wrist or around her neck. A gift certificate will allow her to personally choose exactly what she wants.

A close examination of the SilverRado system revealed extremely sturdy construction, particularly in the fasteners, which, though robust, are very stylish and attractive. Since



each piece is fashioned to order, this also makes them perfect as ankle bracelets that are sure not to be lost; a perfect accessory that epitomizes "Island Chic."

SilveRado charms and beads are also available at the Gold Town shop in the Royal Plaza Mall. What better way to please someone you love other than allowing them to express their love for Aruba, their children or whatever else they particularly fancy? Sam's has a very nice and diverse selection of gift giving and time saving ideas for everyone's mom, from traditional to unique.



Goose hit by arrow lands in veterinarian's NJ yard

MILLINGTON, New Jersey (AP) – A Canada goose with a hunter's 26-inch arrow sticking out of its chest picked the right place to land.

"This is a smart goose," said Bernard Levine, the retired veterinarian in whose Toms River backyard the wounded bird showed up a few weeks ago. "He happened to come into the yard of a veterinarian that could take care of him."

So Levine, 82, fed the goose, helped capture it, performed lifesaving surgery and transported it to the state's largest bird rehabilitation facility, The Raptor Trust.

All patched up after a threeweek stay at The Raptor Trust, the goose was released last week into a stream in a wooded area on the trust's property with Levine witnessing the payoff for his kindness. "It feels great to see him free and liberated, enjoying life the way a goose should," Levine said, as the goose preened and waded downstream.

Although birders generally praise Levine's efforts, some say saving geese is not an imperative because the birds have long been an overly abundant nuisance, according to Peter Bacinski, director of the Sandy Hook Bird Observatory and a New Jersey Audubon member.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife biologists estimated the population of Canada geese in 2009 to be about 1.1 million in eastern North America from Quebec to South Carolina, an 11 percent decline from 2008 because the geese built fewer nests. Colder May temperatures in 2009 and the resulting snowmelt delayed prolonged migration to nesting grounds.



How Arizona became center of immigration debate

PHOENIX, Arizona (AP) – The frustration had been building for years in Arizona with every drug-related kidnapping, every home invasion, every "safe house" discovered crammed with illegal immigrants from Mexico.

The tensions finally spilled over this month with passage of the nation's toughest law against illegal immigration, a measure that has put Arizona at the center of the heated debate over how to deal with the millions of people who sneak into the U.S. every year.

A number of factors combined to produce the law: a heavily conservative Legislature, the ascent of a Republican governor, anger over the federal government's failure to secure the border, and growing anxiety over crime that reached a fever pitch last month with the slaying of an Arizona rancher, apparently by an illegal immigrant.

"The public wants something done. They're tired of it," said state Sen. Russell Pearce, who sponsored the legislation. "They've seen the ineptness and the malfeasance on the part of the government, and they're frustrated."

The new law makes it a state crime to be in the U.S. illegally and directs police to question people about their immigration status if there is reason to suspect they are illegal.

Critics warned that the law could result in racial profiling and other abuses, and they are planning a legal challenge and a November referendum to overturn the measure. Supporters of the law say it is a commendable effort to combat what is fast becoming a scourge in the U.S.

Arizona is the biggest gateway into the U.S. for illegal immigrants. The state is home to an estimated 460,000 illegal immigrants — a population larger than that of entire cities such as Cleveland, St. Louis and New Orleans.

The Republican-dominated Legislature has backed a series of tough immigration measures in the past decade, only to have the most aggressive efforts thwarted by then-Gov. Janet Napolitano, a Democrat.

But the political stars aligned this year for the GOP. President Barack Obama appointed Napolitano to his Cabinet, clearing the way for Republican Secretary of State Jan Brewer to take over as governor. The GOP made a headlong rush back into the immigration debate, and Brewer signed the bill last week.

The law reflects frustration with what many lawmakers



Thousands of protesters, carrying various signs, attend a rally at the Arizona Capitol voicing their displeasure on Sunday, April, 25, 2010, over the Friday bill signing of SB1070 by the Arizona governor, in Phoenix.

see as inaction by the federal government.

"While the Bush administration dropped the ball on border security and illegal immigration, the Obama administration can't even find it," said GOP state Rep. John Kavanagh.

He said lawmakers also felt compelled to act because more immigrants will come to the U.S. as the economy improves and there is a "smell of amnesty in the air" under the Obama administration.

Over the past three years, Border Patrol agents have made 990,000 arrests of immigrants crossing the border illegally in Arizona, or an average of 900 a day. The figures represent 45 percent of all arrests of illegal immigrants along U.S. borders.

Authorities routinely come across safe houses and vehicles jammed with immigrants across the vast Arizona desert. Last week, 67 illegal immigrants were found crammed inside a U-Haul truck — a fairly typical scenario in the state.

The volume of drugs coming through the Arizona border is also eye-popping. Federal agents seized 1.2 million pounds of marijuana last year in Arizona. That amounts to an average of 1.5 tons per day.

Pot busts have become so common that until recently federal prosecutors in Arizona generally declined to press charges against marijuana smugglers caught with less than 500 pounds.

Phoenix has also been dubbed the kidnapping capital

of the U.S. amid a surge of extortion-related abductions tied to drugs and human smuggling. The city has averaged about a kidnapping a day in recent years — some resulting in torture and death. Victims' legs have been burned with irons, their arms have been tied to the ceiling, their fingers broken with bricks.

The anger over immigration-related violence reached a boiling point in late March when a popular cattle rancher named Rob Krentz was gunned down along with his dog on his property near the border. With authorities suspecting an illegal immigrant, politicians seized on the killing to argue that border security is dangerously weak.

"It's something that should have been taken care of for years. It's not something we can keep slacking on," said Thomas Fitch, whose neighborhood near the Arizona Cardinals stadium was the site of a raid last month that netted 11 illegal immigrants in a safe house. "At the rate we're going now, it's going to get a lot worse."

There has long been strong public support in Arizona for a crackdown. In 2004, Arizona voters easily approved a law that denies some welfare benefits to illegal immigrants. It passed with 55 percent of the vote. In 2006, lawmakers put four immigration measures on the ballot, including ones that would deny other government benefits to illegal immigrants and make English the official language. Each measure passed with at least 70 percent.

Everyone's welcome at Paseo Herencia's Queens' Birthday celebration





NOORD: On Friday April 30th, Paseo Herencia Shopping & Entertainment Center will be celebrating Queen Day with tremendous shows and a shopping bazaar starting at 6pm. Musical Entertainment is in the hands of a famous Aruban band that will delight the public with their music. Besides typical music there will also be dance performances by Kids & Youth in Action, a local youth dance group

To complete the festivities various stands will be available that offer treats such as cakes and pastry. There will also be arts and crafter related to the Queens Birthday theme.

Restaurants in Paseo Herencia Shopping & Entertainment Center are open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner and in connection with Queens Birthday restaurants in Paseo Herencia Shopping & Entertainment Center will have different specials and discounts.

Paseo Herencia Shopping & Entertainment Center would like to invite everyone to come and enjoy the show and spend a fun filled afternoon at Paseo Herencia with family and friends.

On April 30th, stores at Paseo Herencia Shopping & Entertainment Center are open from 5pm – 10pm. Restaurants are open regularly for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Don't miss the event, come and enjoy the day with your family and friends.



Sandra Bullock's divorce cites discord as grounds

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) – Sandra Bullock has filed for divorce from her husband, Jesse James, citing discord and conflict of personalities without "any reasonable expectations of reconciliation."

The divorce petition, which was filed Friday, said the couple has no child under 18 years of age who is entitled to support. The Oscarwinning actress revealed Wednesday on People magazine's website that she is adopting a 3 1/2-month-old boy, Louis Bardo Bullock, who was born in New Orleans.

James and Bullock separated in March after five years of marriage, following reports that the celebrity motorcycle builder and reality-TV star had been unfaithful.

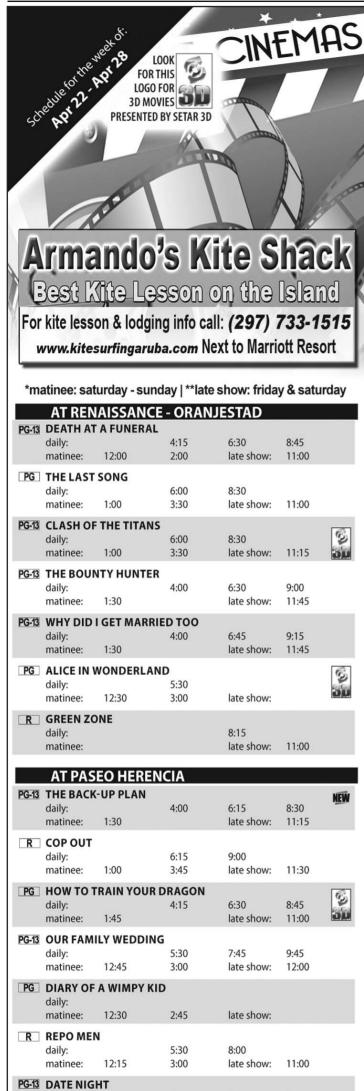
Bullock's divorce papers were filed in a Travis County court in Austin, Texas, where Bullock owns two downtown restaurants and is believed to have a home. The 3-page filing was first reported by celebrity website TMZ.com. A call to Bullock's attorney was not immediately returned.

The divorce filing said Bullock and James no longer lived together and she believed they could enter into an agreement to divide their estates.

"The marriage between Petitioner and Respondent has become insupportable because of discord or conflict of personalities that destroys the legitimate ends of the marriage relationship and prevents any reasonable expectations of reconciliation," the divorce filing said.

Bullock 45, and James, 41, began the adoption process four years ago, the People article said, and brought Louis Bardo Bullock home in January but decided to keep the news to themselves until after the Academy Awards.



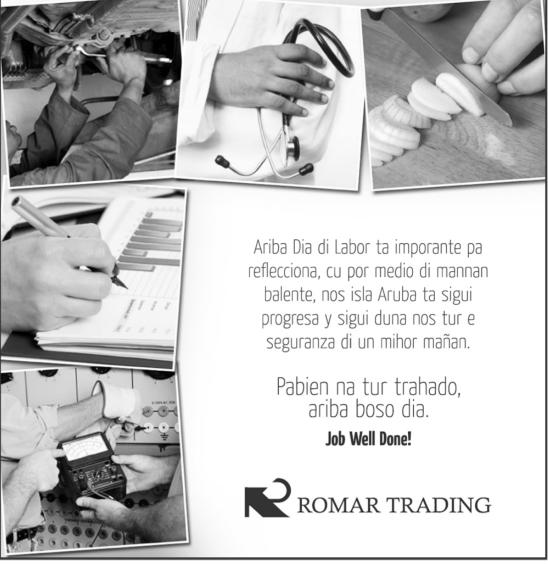


THE BACK-UP PLAN (Comedy): After years of dating, Zoe has decided waiting for the right one is taking too long. Determined to become a mother, she commits to a plan, makes an appointment and decides to go it alone. That same day, Zoe meets Stan – a man with real possibilities. Trying to nurture a budding relationship and hide the early signs of pregnancy becomes a comedy of errors for Zoe and creates confusing signals for

matinee:

late show:

11:45



Inter stun Barca, reach Champions League final

BARCELONA — Inter Milan reached the Champions League final on Wednesday, beating Barcelona 3-2 on aggregate in their semi-final despite losing the second leg 1-0 and playing an hour of the game with 10 men.

Jose Mourinho's Inter, will face Bayern Munich in the final on May 22 in Madrid.

Despite Gerard Pique's 84th-minute goal, defending champions Barcelona were unable to find the crucial second goal as 10-man Inter held on.

IOC strips 2000 Games bronze medal from China

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates – Ten years after its gymnastics team won an Olympic bronze medal in Sydney, China was ordered to give it back for using an underage girl, allowing the United States to claim it instead.

Acting on evidence that Dong Fangxiao was only 14 at the 2000 Games, the International Olympic Committee on Wednesday stripped the country of the women's team bronze.

Gymnasts must turn 16 during the Olympic year to be eligible.

Lakers regroup, lead series 3-2

LOS ANGELES -- Pau Gasol scored 25 points Tuesday to lead the Los Angeles Lakers to a 111-87 win over Oklahoma City in Game 5 of the Western Conference quarterfinals.

Kobe Bryant scored 13 in a victory that put the Lakers ahead 3-2 in the series, which resumes Friday in Oklahoma City.

Andrew Bynum added 21 for the Lakers, who led wire to wire and were ahead by as

many as 16 points in the first quarter. Los Angeles held a comfortable 55-34 lead at half-time.

Kevin Durant scored 17 points for the Thunder and was a tepid 5-of-14 from the field in the face of a dogged Los Angeles defense. Russell Westbrook scored 15 points, and Oklahoma City shot 36.9 percent from the field to the Lakers' 53.8 percent.

NBA playoffs



WESTERN CONF.

LA LAKERS VS. OKLAHOMA CITY (LAKERS LEAD 3-2)
DALLAS VS. SAN ANTONIO (SPURS LEAD 3-1)
PHOENIX VS. PORTLAND (SUNS LEAD 3-2)
DENVER VS. UTAH (JAZZ LEAD 3-1)

EASTERN CONF.

CLEVELAND VS. CHICAGO (CAVALIERS WIN 4-1)
ORLANDO VS. CHARLOTTE (MAGIC WINS 4-0)
ATLANTA VS. MILWAUKEE (SPURS LEAD 3-2)
BOSTON VS. MIAMI (CELTICS WIN 4-1)



Lookin At Lucky is early Kentucky Derby favorite

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – (AP) Lookin At Lucky was made the early 3-1 favorite for the Kentucky Derby and Sidney's Candy was the second choice Wednesday in a full field of 20 horses. Neither, however, drew the most favorable post position for Saturday's race.

Trained by three-time Derby winner Bob Baffert and ridden by Garrett Gomez, Lookin At Lucky drew the No. 1 post — generally considered a disadvantage because horses charging into the first turn of the 1 1-4 mile track tend to jam the inside.

Sidney's Candy, 5-1, didn't fare much better, drawing the outside No. 20 post — making for the widest of all trips around Churchill Downs.

Twelve horses have won from the No. 1 post; the last was Ferdinand in 1986. Only two winners have come from No. 20, with Big Brown doing so two years ago.

Devil May Care is a 10-1 co-third favorite as she attempts to become the fourth filly to win the Derby. The last filly to run in the Derby, Eight Belles, finished second



Lookin At Lucky

two years ago, but broke down after crossing the finish line and had to be euthanized.

Mike Pegram, co-owner of Lookin At Lucky, still feels, well, pretty lucky.

"If there's a horse that can overcome that spot, it's Lucky," he said. "I don't want to sound overconfident, but we got the best jockey in the country and he knows what his responsibilities are."

Trained by John Sadler, Sidney's Candy is ridden by Joe Talamo and owned by weight loss maven Jenny Craig. The colt swept the California preps but has never raced on dirt before.

Devil May Care will take on the boys from the No. 11 post. The other co-third choices are Florida Derby winner Ice Box and Gotham winner Awesome Act.

Devil May Care is one of four horses in the field trained by Todd Pletcher, who is 0

for 24 in the Derby. His best horse, Eskendereya, was forced out with a leg injury last weekend.

Devil May Care has the lowest odds of Pletcher's four horses. Super Saver is 15-1, Mission Impazible is 20-1, and Discreetly Mine is 30-1.

"I came out pretty good in all cases," Pletcher said. "The only negative is the 11 because she'll be in the gate for a long time."

A year ago, 50-1 shot Mine That Bird stunned the field and won under a railhugging ride by Calvin Borel, who rides Super Saver this time.

There are a quartet of horses at 50-1 this time: Dean's Kitten, Make Music for Me, Backtalk (a son of 2004 Derby winner Smarty Jones) and Homeboykris, coowned by Los Angeles Dodgers manager Joe Torre.

Hall of Famer trainer D. Wayne Lukas, a four-time Derby winner, will saddle Dublin, listed at 12-1.

The Derby field in postposition order with odds: Lookin At Lucky, 3-1; Ice Box, 10-1; Noble's Promise, 12-1; Super Saver, 15-1; Line of David, 30-1; Stately Victor, 30-1; American Lion, 30-1; Dean's Kitten, 50-1; Make Music for Me, 50-1; Paddy O'Prado, 20-1; Devil May Care, 10-1; Conveyance, 12-1; Jackson Bend, 15-1; Mission Impazible, 20-1; Discreetly Mine, 30-1; Awesome Act, 10-1; Dublin, 12-1; Backtalk, 50-1; Homeboykris, 50-1; and Sidney's Candy, 5-1.

The draw reverted to a traditional pill pull for the first time since 1997, after a two-tier, made-for-TV process was used the last 12 years.

Instead of the connections for each horse selecting their starting spots, officials pulled entry blanks simultaneously with a numbered pill to determine what spot a horse breaks from in the starting gate.

